Date	Reasons
02-05-1988	. Cost esclation and market conditions.
01-06-1988	. Cost escalation and market conditions.
07-06-1988	. Prices changed for only 5/6 mm in line with market condition.
01-07-1988	. Prices increased only for thicknesses 0.9 mm to 3.15 mm and decreased for 4.5 and 6 mm.
06-07-1988	. Prices changed only for 0.8 mm to adjust with other thicknesses.
18-08-1988	. Cost of inputs and other escalations in cost of production, marketc onditions.
01-09-1988	. Cost of inputs and other escalations in cost of production, market conditions.
02-12-1988	. Cost of inputs and other escalations in cost of production, market conditions.
01-03-1989	. Prices increased in view of change in Excise duty.
03-06-1989	. Prices reduced in view of market conditions.
20-03-1990	. Price increased in view of Excise change.
10-04-1990	. Prices reduced in view of market conditions.

935. [*Transferred to 24th August,* 1990]

936. [*Transferred to 24th August,* 1990]

Enquiry regarding spillage of furnace Oil from Bokaro Steel Plant

937. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 190 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether Government have conducted an enquiry regarding the recent furnace oil spillage in the river Damodar by Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to punish those responsible for the mishap?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTERY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir, enquiry has been conducted regarding furnace oil spillage in the river Damodar on April 4-5, 1990 by a Committee appointed by the Bokaro Steel Plant.

(b) The Committee found that:—

(1) Drain valves were initially not in open condition.

(2) Drain valves were opened subsequently by some person/persons intentionally after 3-4-1990.

(3) Motive of opening of the valves in all probability, was for unauthorisedly recovering the oil from drainage system out-side the plant. Motive of defaming plant management is not borne out by evidence, though its possibility cannot be ruled out. Sabotage to the plant as the motive was also ruled out.

(4) Certain lapses on the part of the working personnel were noticed with regard to proper recording of the oil stock in the tanks as well as the receipt and despatch of oil on regular shift basis. Had they been done properly the leakage could

have been detected earlier.

(5) Operative of 'C' shift of 4-4-90 and 'A' shift of 5.4.90 failed to bring out/check the cause of sudden appreciable fall of level in storage tank number I when there was no consumption during the period.

(c) The committee could not fix any personal responsibility for the deliberate opening of drain out valves during the unloading of tank wagons and storing in the Fuel Storage Tank numbers I and II. Management has already lodged an F. I. R: with the local police to investigate the case further. For other lapses the following action has been taken:

(i) The officer in charge has been charge-sheeted for the lapse on his part and not checking and verifying the stocks of furnace oil.

(ii) The two shift operatives have been issued warning letters for not maintaining proper records and dereliction of their duties.

(iii) A caution letter has been issued to the Deputy Manager, Environment Control Department of the Plant for not keeping a check and for not detecting the flow of oil in plant outfall No I in time

Export of leather garments to South Korea

938. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government have taken to increase export of leather garments to South Korea after the 'buyer-seller get together' organised recently in South Korea;

(b) whether South Korea has shown keen interest in promoting joint venture of 100 per cent export unit to manufacture leather garments; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to promote joint ventures with South Korea?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) Purusant to the Buyer-Seller Meet held in South Korea some delegations of leather garment importers from Korea visited India and contacted producers in Delhi and Bangalore to negotiate business. More prospective buyers are expected to visit India in the ensuing months especially during the leather fair.

(b) and (c) The Council for Leather Exports has reported that some of the leading South Korean businessmen have evinced interest in establishing export oriented joint ventures with Indian parties and that preliminary discussions in this regard are underway.

Transfer of spouses in New Bank of India in terms of Ministry of Industry order

939. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in New Bank of India transfers of spouses are not made in terms of the Ministry of Industry OM No. 15/1/87-GN dated 15th January, 1987;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the number of such cases pending; and

(c) by when the New Bank of India is likely to implement the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Cases of transfers of bank employees, including those of working spouses, are not governed by the stated circular issued by the Ministry of Industry. However, Public Sector Banks, including New Bank of India have been advised by this Ministry to consider posting of the working spouses at the same/nearby stations subject to administrative convenience and availability of vacancies etc. when both happen to be working in the same or different banks. The instructions are, however, not applicable to an employee where spouse is working in an organisation other than a public sector bank.